

The Batesburg Advertiser

VOL. II.

BATESBURG, S. C., WEDNESDAY, JULY 30, 1902.

NO. 28.

A HOT TIME.

Editor DeCamp Calls Col. Jim Tillman a Falsifier

AT THE GAFFNEY MEETING.

Correspondent With Tillman Submitted: Disorder Became So Widespread That Meeting Was Adjourned. No Blows Passed.

An orderly meeting of about 500 voters and some ladies ended in disorder at Gaffney Wednesday, involving the most sensational incident of the campaign. Col. Tillman, as details further on will show, was reading an editorial from the Gaffney Ledger charging him with "being a gambler, a liar and a drunkard." He was sarcastic in his comments and was interrupted by Editor DeCamp of the Ledger, who assumed entire responsibility and defended with determination his charges. In the ensuing discussion Mr. DeCamp offered "to prove Col. Tillman a liar over his own signature." When asked to furnish this proof Mr. DeCamp retired to his office, submitting upon his return the evidence below. The scene was most sensational. Mr. DeCamp, with no excitement, resolutely pressed his accusation amid noise and confusion, many cheers for Tillman, no small amount for DeCamp, and numerous remarks addressed to either and both and sometimes neither. All the gubernatorial candidates were well received, Tillman, Heyward and Talbert leading. Mr. Gary received much cheering and applause, as did Messrs. Sharpe, Martin and Frost.

The afternoon session had a full house, this was true when the gubernatorial candidates were announced at 3 o'clock. Congressman Talbert was the first speaker, and after tribute to ladies, he addressed the voters on responsibilities of the office sought. Has had some of the necessary experience and has the manhood for requirements. Trust and monopolies, labor and capital discussed, and Commercial Democracy vigorously assaulted. Wants good feeling with all classes. Educational interest favored. Reiterated white and colored tax scheme. (Cheers.) Issues forcibly discussed. Col. Talbert was heard most attentively. Interrupted with cheers, especially on tax scheme closed with applause.

The next speaker was
CAPT. HEYWARD
who was warmly received. He came here as a stranger but very few of these South Carolinians and was most grateful for such greeting. This county destined to be one of the greatest counties of South Carolina. Paved a tribute to South Carolina womanhood, then passed on to his candidacy. All love feast issues discussed, blend and centre in up-building of our State. These issues discussed in their exact meaning. Dispensary, education, good-roads, pensions discussed. Tribute to Confederate soldier. Heard with closest interest and applause; closed with applause.

MR. ANSEL CAME NEXT
with applause and unfortunately, with a sore throat. He regretted not being made his speech. Coming from the Pearl of the Piedmont portion of the State to which Cherokee belonged; paid his tribute to woman and her uplifting influences. Comes with endorsement of Greenville county, six years in legislature; comes with endorsement of five upper South Carolina counties as solicitor for 12 years; official record satisfactory, always to his constituents. Issues discussed and Mr. Ansel's voice interfered not with interest of his hearers. He was heard throughout with close attention. Introduced Bro. Crofford to the Cherokee audience; closed with applause.

DR. TIMMERMAN
was the next speaker, claiming that he and Mr. Ansel, vice president, were the only true friends of the ladies. Has never had to mediate his private or official character. Col. Talbert refers to "timber rigging" in South Carolina politics. This is something unknown to the speaker. Has what no competitor can say, the endorsement of the people of South Carolina. At home elected to the legislature, when not a candidate and under his protest, an honor not bestowed on any other so far as he knew. He is standing in his own shoes; running on his own merits. Object of government is protection of society and issues so discussed. As to when he was Treasurer, he did not have to borrow money. As said Col. Talbert's white tax scheme; this is dangerous. Closed with applause.

LIEUT. GOV. TILLMAN
was the next and last speaker who came forward with cheers and applause and hurrahs for Tillman. Returned thanks for this and for past support. Glad to see these people face to face to let them see if he is the man painted. Appeals to his country, and by this to be judged; standing on record. Referred again to the ruling incident in the senate, then on to sword affair. Finishing these in detail, he found it necessary to notice an editorial in the Gaffney Ledger published some weeks ago.

This editorial charged Col. Tillman with "being a gambler, a liar and a drunkard." Col. Tillman was reading the article, stopping for vigorous and sarcastic characterization on its contents. The article stated that County Chairman T. B. Butler and Messrs. McCraw and Sarraat could substantiate what was said. Turning to Mr. Butler Col. Tillman asked to hear from him. Replying Col. Butler said: "I know absolutely nothing about the state-

ment and the man who wrote it did so without my authority."

Col. Tillman was proceeding in vigorous and sarcastic characterization of the article when Editor DeCamp of the Ledger stepped upon the stage and advancing directly to Col. Tillman, whom he faced, said: "I am the man who wrote the editorial and am responsible for it." Turning to Col. Butler, Mr. DeCamp said: "Have you not been drinking with Col. Tillman in Columbia?"

"Not more than with you," replied Mr. Butler. (Cheers.)
The crowd was very noisy and vehement now and the ladies left precipitately, the scene being stormy and threatening. Cheers for Tillman and threats for DeCamp; various cries and suggestions to both and general movement among the audience. The chairman's gavel and other noises were heard. Mr. DeCamp stood his ground and again expressed with determination his authority and responsibility.

"Then you are the author of something of which you should be ashamed," said Col. Tillman. Mr. DeCamp coolly made a terrific commotion when he said: "Col. Tillman, I can prove you a liar over your own signature." Col. Tillman requested him to do so and Mr. DeCamp went to his office for the proof. In the meantime Mr. Coughman who had been absent, tried to speak but no one heard.

Col. Tillman was proceeding with his speech when Mr. DeCamp returned and reading the two letters below, he stated again that he could prove Col. Tillman a falsifier and read the letters which were in reply to bills sent from time to time regarding an advertisement account which he had not been able to collect. Following is a verbatim copy of the letters:

Edgfield, Jan. 3, 1902.
Mr. E. H. DeCamp, Editor Grit and Steel, Gaffney, S. C.:

I have received several letters from you, enclosing bill for advertising in your paper. I beg to say that I think if you will refer to your books you will find that all these bills made with Grit and Steel were promptly paid and in advance.

Yours truly,
Jas. H. Tillman.

Replying to another bill from Mr. DeCamp, came the following letter.

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 12, 1902.
Mr. E. H. DeCamp, Business Manager Grit and Steel, Gaffney, S. C.:

While I am satisfied that I have already paid the bill which you sent to Mr. Shephard, I find you under this cover my check for \$4 in payment of same. Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Yours truly,
Jas. H. Tillman.

"KNEW HE WAS LYING."
Mr. DeCamp maintained that Col. Tillman knew he owed the account when he denied it and he also insisted that the contents of the two letters revealed this fact. Mr. DeCamp further remarked as he finished reading the letters that Col. Tillman had never paid the bill and knew that he was lying when he wrote the letter. Col. Tillman asked Mr. DeCamp to hand him the letters. Mr. DeCamp refused to do so. Col. Tillman insisted. Mr. DeCamp again refusing, saying they were his property. Col. Tillman said he only wanted to read them, and Mr. DeCamp handed them to him, standing by Col. Tillman while he read. After reading Col. Tillman said:

"If I only had one matter on my mind at once I would have known, but after consulting my books and finding the error, I sent him the money due him."

Mr. DeCamp then wanted to know if it took six letters to find out one mistake in a set of books. There was much noise and excitement in the audience, much cheering, some hissing. Not a majority of the audience by any means were cheering. Most of the noise seemed to be in favor of Tillman, but Mr. DeCamp, who firmly and aggressively stood his ground, was by no means without friends and supporters. Finally Chairman Butler regarding that Col. Tillman's time limit had expired, adjourned the meeting.

A Columbia Boy.

The Columbia State says some years ago a tall, slender young man left his home in Columbia determined to make a name for himself in the far west. It was James C. Sims, a son of the late Col. R. M. Sims, and he was full of determination. He came back to his old home a few days ago on a visit to his relatives, and goes from Columbia to Washington to visit his mother and sisters. He is now a stout, fine looking man. He is the present State chairman of the Democratic party in California, a leading lawyer in San Francisco, and is the State senator representing the county in which the city of San Francisco is located. Mr. Sims' scores of old friends were delighted to see him once more and to congratulate him upon his success.

SOIL AT LARGE.
Harry Tracey, the outlaw appeared at Miller's logging camp, four miles from Kansas, Wednesday. Tracey is not wounded, and looks fresh and rested. He is wearing a derby hat, but he had a slouch hat in his pocket. He still has his rifle and two revolvers and has a good supply of ammunition.

An Awful Death.
While attempting to cross the track in front of a passenger train Carrie Meets, a colored girl, twelve years old, was run over and instantly killed Wednesday morning near Helena, a station on the Columbia and Greenville division of the Southern. The mangled remains were scattered for a mile along the track.

DEPUTY AHI KILLED

By a Supposed Horse Thief Named

Jeffcoat In

LOWER PART OF AIKEN COUNTY.

The Story of the Affair as Obtained from Different Sources. The

Fugitive a Desperate

Man.

On last Tuesday night week Gov. McSweeney received the following telegram:

Wagener, July 22.
To Gov. McSweeney, Columbia, S. C. Jeffcoat found. Killed one of our men. Escaped to swamp. Send bloodhounds to Perry tonight on train No. 29.

The governor found it impossible to get communication with Wagener or to get bloodhounds, and wired the sheriff of Aiken county to that effect, also asking for further particulars. There is a reward of \$100 for the capture and delivery of Jeffcoat, as it is supposed that he is at the head of a gang of horse thieves that have been terrorizing the whole county.

The governor heard nothing more Wednesday of the affair. He expected a reply from Sheriff Alderman in his telegram during the forenoon, but up to 2:30 o'clock nothing came from the sheriff. The governor then wired the sheriff again as follows:

"Have you any information in regard to Jeffcoat matter at Wagner? I wired you last night to give me full information. Answer."

The State's correspondent at Augusta sends the story below, giving some further information. Though Jeffcoat is claimed in the story as a Georgian, he is a South Carolinian unfortunately, and is known as a desperado. The facts presented to the governor show that he has been operating at the head of a gang of horse thieves in Aiken county for some time and only last week the reward referred to above was offered. Here is what the correspondent says:

A GEORGIA ACCOUNT.
"Georgia has produced a veritable Tracey, who has crossed over into Carolina and has worked the authorities of that State to a fever heat. Charlie Jeffcoat was being chased by a sheriff in the southern part of Georgia last week for horse-stealing and when he got too close for the welfare of the fugitive Jeffcoat turned on him, shot him. The criminal then crossed the river to Aiken county and the chase was taken up by Sheriff Alderman of Aiken and Deputy Ahl with bloodhounds. Tuesday morning some time they struck the criminal's trail and followed him to Jeffcoat's settlement down the river. When they discovered Jeffcoat and were closing in on him he turned and fired a broadside at the two officers. Sheriff Alderman escaped the bullets, but Deputy Ahl was shot dead and the criminal escaped the second time about 5:30 Tuesday afternoon, taking to the woods. Sheriff Alderman immediately organized a posse and notified the sheriffs of Orangeburg and Edgfield, who have joined in the hunt for Jeffcoat. Bloodhounds still being used to trace.

HE WANTED ARMS.
Things rocked along until Wednesday night before the governor got any information from the officers in Aiken and when it did come it was vague and brought no facts bearing on the killing of the deputy. It was in the shape of the following telegram:

Aiken, July 23.
Governor McSweeney:

Palmetto rifles disbanded. Guns are here but some parties refuse to give them up. Wire instructions. My deputy and posse still there. Will leave soon as possible.

Owen Alderman, Sheriff.
Governor McSweeney promptly sent this reply:

Owen Alderman, Sheriff, Aiken, S. C.: I said nothing about Palmetto rifles. My advice was for you to organize a posse and do your best to capture Jeffcoat. Give me full particulars by wire. M. B. McSweeney, Governor.

Wagener, S. C., July 24.
Gov. M. B. McSweeney:

The people think the parties are here in the swamp. Is there any chance for blood hounds. If so send them. Send me two boxes 38 and 40 Winchester rifles to Perry first train.

Owen Alderman, Sheriff.

This reply was sent:

Owen Alderman, Sheriff, Wagener, S. C.: Have directed adjutant general's department to ship two boxes of 38 and 40 Winchester cartridges to Perry at once. Will see if I can secure blood hounds from county authorities here. Wire me fully as to your movements and do your best to capture Jeffcoat. M. B. McSweeney, Governor.

Then came this from the sheriff:

Gov. M. B. McSweeney: Parties here who are harboring Jeffcoat are trying to keep us off him. Must I arrest those parties and send them to jail. Notify sheriff Lexington county to come and protect that side of river. Answer.

Owen Alderman Sheriff.

This answer was dispatched:

Owen Alderman Sheriff, Wagener, S. C.: Telegram received. It is your duty to arrest the parties who are interfering

ing with your efforts to capture Jeffcoat. I would not hesitate a moment to arrest every one of them and place them in jail.

M. B. McSweeney, Governor.

The governor then wired to Lexington's sheriff as follows:

Sheriff Lexington County, Lexington, S. C.: Owen Alderman, sheriff Aiken county, wires from Wagener as follows: "Notify sheriff Lexington county to come and protect that side of river." Comply with Sheriff Alderman's request. Wire him at Wagener. Do all you can to assist in the arrest of Jeffcoat.

M. B. McSweeney, Governor.

About 2 o'clock Sheriff Alderman who had gone to Perry's wired the governor this report:

Perry, S. C., July 24.
Gov. M. B. McSweeney, Columbia, S. C.:

Last account Jeffcoat going back to Brown's landing. Got posse in pursuit.

Owen Alderman, Sheriff.

JEFFCOAT'S GEORGIA RECORD.
The Savannah Morning News, referring to the killing of the Aiken deputy by Jeffcoat, Wednesday gave the desperado's Georgia record as follows:

"This makes Jeffcoat's third killing. He was wanted in Emanuel county, Ga., for killing a man named Wilson, near Herndon last winter. He went there, and it is said he and Wilson were doing an illicit liquor business together. After killing Wilson he left Emanuel, but recently returned. Sheriff Flanders had made several efforts to apprehend him and on the night of July 16 undertook, with a posse to surround him in a swamp. The man had escaped, however, and the posse scattered to search for him. Deputy Sheriff Curl and Joe Flanders, a brother of the sheriff, overtook Jeffcoat and his wife on the road to Midway, at 11 p. m. The desperado was expecting arrest, and was sitting in his buggy with his face to the rear. When ordered to surrender he shot Flanders in the left breast with a Winchester rifle, then jumped from the buggy and fled to a swamp. Mrs. Jeffcoat, or Johnson, also took part in the shooting and was wounded in the head. She is now in jail at Swainsboro.

Jeffcoat, has sailed under a alias. In Emanuel county he was known as Charlie Johnson. The people of that county have been greatly aroused, and any news of the man who killed Flanders is eagerly sought. This was shown by the way in which information was sought from Columbia and Aiken.

"Rewards amounting to \$900 have been offered for Jeffcoat. Doggers have been printed and circulated, giving descriptions of him. These may be the means of running him to earth. The rich prize his capture would bring will induce police and constabularies to make a strict watch for him. He will find it a difficult task to escape, and may yet meet death at the point of a Winchester as unerring as his own.

"The wife of J. C. Flanders offers \$200 for the apprehension of Jeffcoat, and Sheriff J. T. Flanders, brother of the murdered man, offers \$200 more. In addition, \$200 is offered by friends of the Flanders, and the aggregate of \$600 is on deposit in the Citizens' bank at Swainsboro. In addition, there is \$300 offered by the governor.

Jeffcoat, or Johnson, is described as being between 27 and 30 years of age, weighing about 135 or 140 pounds. He is 5 feet 8, or 10 inches high, and has blue eyes and dark brown hair, which, at a distance, seems black. He has a light mustache and features. When he left Emanuel county, he was barefooted and in his shirt sleeves.

"Jeffcoat's occupation is that of a wood Sawyer. He has two brothers living in Aiken and two living near that place."

MADE HIS ESCAPE.
The Columbia State says though it was expected that news would reach here Friday that some of the posse after Jeffcoat had managed either to capture or kill him, that it seems the fellow is an artful dodger and has managed to confuse and finally elude the man hunters who were so close upon his tracks. The only information the governor received Friday was most discouraging. It came in this form:

Wagener, July 25.
Gov. M. B. McSweeney:

Have no definite trace of Jeffcoat. Some think he has gone; others say not. Will stay here today. Have you heard from Pitter and Hankinson. Answer.

Owen Alderman Sheriff.

HOW DEPUTY AHI WAS KILLED.
The State's correspondent at Aiken has sent the following details of the killing of Deputy Sheriff Ahl by the fleeing desperado. On Monday evening, July 21, Chief of Police D. C. Weeks of the city of Aiken received a telegram stating that the notorious horse thief Jeffcoat was near Seivern in this county, and to go there at once. At 11 o'clock that night he accompanied by Mr. D. C. Ahl, left for Seivern. The account of the chase and its sad result, your correspondent has gotten from Chief Weeks upon his return.

Mr. Weeks says: When we arrived at Seivern we were informed that Jeffcoat had moved from where he was when the telegram was sent to me. The good citizens of Seivern went to work immediately to locate him. Mr. Ahl and myself with two other citizens of Aiken county went over into Lexington county, and there struck

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SOME PLAIN TALK

Against Child Labor by the Rev.

Hudson Stuck.

"THE SOUTHERN PRIVILEGE."

Declares That It Is One Which

the South Will Denounce

and Forbid When

Aroused.

The Rev. Hudson Stuck, Dean of St. Matthews' Cathedral, publishes the following letter on the question of child labor in the Dallas, Texas, News. It will be of interest to our readers just at this time:

I am sorry to see that The News, in its leading editorial of Tuesday, seems disposed to put a damper upon the attempts that are being made to procure such legislation in Texas as shall prevent the employment of children in factories. I had thought that if the world had arrived at one definite conclusion in the whole wide realm of economics, it was that such labor is detrimental to the well-being of the community, and is a proper object of legislative prohibition.

It is not a theory that we are dealing with. We are not to be led from the plain purpose before us by vague considerations of the whole subject of the condition of children in homes and on farms throughout the State. It is one plain, notorious, indefensible abuse that we are seeking to abolish. "Some sentimental reformers," says your article of Tuesday, "taking little note of progress that has been made, and of the natural difficulties that must always remain in the way, would make the old-time crusade to free the little meek slaves of London" (whatever that may mean) "a new-time fad, and would run off into lines that are not practical, and that turn in the wrong direction."

Now that either means something, it means nothing. It has either some application to Texas or it has none. The only movement on foot today in Texas, of which I know anything, is a movement to secure the passage and enforcement of a law to prohibit entirely the employment of children under 12 years of age in factories, and to regulate the hours and conditions of employment of young persons up to 16 years of age.

Is this a new-time fad? Is that running off in lines that are not practical, and that turn in the wrong direction? To call it a new-time fad is absurd. It is the old struggle that was fought out in England many a decade ago, that was fought out in New England soon after, that has been fought and won in every European country, and that men had supposed would never have to be fought again. But if it is necessary to prove that two and two makes four in the South as well as in New England (and of such manifest simplicity I hold the economic problem in question to be) why we must open the matter again, must re-address ourselves to the old task.

The conditions existing in Dallas today are conditions that the British Parliament forbade in England exactly 100 years ago, in 1802; that were forbidden by law in Massachusetts sixty-six years ago, in 1836.

In one mill in this city there are between sixty and seventy children from 5 or 6 years old to 12, working twelve hours a day. And this not all. Two or three times a week, whenever it suits the convenience of the mill, they work fifteen hours a day. That is what the first English factory act forbade, in 1802. Utterly ignorant, not knowing their letters very often, even to good sized youth, these children are compelled to forego the night school to which they drag their weary feet, whenever it suits their employers to demand overtime.

"At any rate," says your leading article, "if the child labor movement is to be kept along let the good work begin at once where it is most needed." That is precisely the view of those who are beginning the agitation for factory laws in Texas. We know no better place where the movement may be "kept along" as you express it, than right here in our midst where, such outrages on childhood are permitted.

The Encyclopedia Britannica, in summing up its article on factory laws, says "By these various enactments the State has emphatically taken under its protection the whole class of children and young persons employed in manufacturing industries. It has done this in the name of the moral and physical health of the community." One would hardly accuse the Britannica of being a "sentimental reformer."

Says Dr. Hadley, the president of Yale, in his recent book "Economics" (1900), "Prohibition of child labor is unquestionably justified on public grounds, because if children go to work in the factory at too early an age they are deprived of the chance of health and education which would enable them to make the most of themselves." That is the case in a nutshell. All observation, all experience, show that children put to work early in factories are deprived of these two things—perhaps the two most valuable things that a human being can possess—the chance of health and the chance of education.

Charles B. Spahr, in his late book entitled "America's Working People," says: "When I went through the mills at New Bedford, I saw only two children who looked to me less than 13," and he was assured that they held

certificates that they were above that age. "In Massachusetts today," he adds, "I heard no manufacturer even hint at a desire for the Southern privilege of employing little children." "The Southern privilege!" Is it not make the blood of honest men and women boil to hear of this Southern privilege?

We are about to celebrate with every circumstance of honor and dignity, our undying memory of those who shed their blood in the Civil War. We are about to laud our heroes to the skies once more. We have been accustomed since the time of Henry Grady to point to the wondrous "New South" that has sprung of the ashes of that old South for which these heroes fought. But is it not matter for serious reflection that this New South is bringing in its train the old, worn-out, thoroughly discredited abuses that even the greed of Eastern manufacturers long ago relinquished for very shame? That in many cases the descendants of the very men who plunged the nation in warfare to abolish the institution of negro slavery, are now employing their capital to enslave our poor white children?

The South has been apathetic because, and only because, this thing was new to it; because it has crept in almost unnoticed, and is still very largely unknown to it. A large majority of the citizens of Dallas are wholly ignorant of the state of affairs in this respect within their own city limits. The heart of the South is sound wherever women and children are concerned; quick to resent and to protect. "The Southern privilege of employing little children" for fifteen hours a day in factories, is a privilege which the South will denounce and forbid as soon as it wakes up to the situation.

Hudson Stuck, Dean of St. Matthews'.

AGAINST CHILD LABOR.

Texas Teachers Make an Appeal to the Legislature.

The Dallas, Texas, News says by the invitation of Prof. Louis, the superintendent of Dallas public schools, Dean Stuck made an address to the teachers of the city schools on the subject of the legislative regulation of child labor in factories. There were about 100 teachers present, and much interest was displayed. Dean Stuck quoted from an article by Elbert Hubbard, the author of "The Message to Garcia," in the current number of The Philistine, as follows: "I know the sweat shops of Hester Street, New York; I am familiar with the vice, depravity and degradation of the Whitechapel district in East London; I have visited the Ghettos in Venice; I know the lot of the coal miners of Pennsylvania, and I know something of Siberian atrocities, but for misery, woe, and hopeless suffering, I have never seen anything to equal the cotton mill slavery of South Carolina—this in my own America, the land of the free and the home of the brave! For the adult who accepts the life of the mills I have no word to say; it is his own business. My plea is in defense of the innocent. I voice the cry of the child whose sob is drowned in the thunder of whirling wheels."

Dean Stuck insisted that the condition of things in South Carolina threatened Texas, too; that a beginning had already been made of the introduction of the system of child labor that now was the time to make a strong fight for the enactment of a law that should forbid its extension, and that it was necessary to arouse public sentiment in order that such a bill might have a chance of passing at the next session of the Legislature.

The following resolutions, moved by Prof. Morgan, were unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, The increase of factories in States where there is no regulation of the employment of child labor has resulted in certain grave evils to childhood, namely, first, an excessive length of daily work, this being extended at times into the night; second, the physical, mental and moral weakening of the children, owing to this confinement and the unhealthy conditions of work; and, thirdly, a great increase in the percentage of illiterates owing to the loss to the children of the opportunities of school."

"Whereas, Factories are rapidly increasing in Texas, and these grave evils are increasing with them. We, the teachers of the Dallas public schools in the name of the children of Texas, do respectfully present to the legislators of Texas our earnest request that they take into consideration the matter of regulating child labor."

"We urge that Texas profit by the bitter experience of the older cotton States and regulate these evils before they assume greater proportions. We believe that this regulation ought to come now, for it is statesmanship to learn from others how to prevent these evils rather than to learn in our turn by sacrificing the lives of a generation of children."

Killed Like Goebel.
Jones Cockrell was shot and killed from the court house window at Jackson, Ky., at noon Wednesday by an unknown assassin. Friends who accompanied the wounded man to Lexington say they fear his death will be the signal for a prolonged and disastrous warfare Cockrell was preparing to leave Jackson to get out of a feud when the shots were fired. He was town marshal of Jackson.

UNREQUITED LOVE drove a young man to commit suicide in a St. Petersburg hotel. It transpired that he had asked a little girl in the street to choose one of two pieces of paper which he handed to her. On one was written "Life," and on the other "Death." The girl chose "Death."

AN AWFUL SCENE.

A Man Curses and Raves on the

Scaffold

JUST BEFORE BEING HUNG

For a Brutal Murder. A Sad

Warning to Young Men

to Let Strong Drink

Alone.

At forty-one minutes past eleven o'clock Tuesday morning Ashley Cocke and Tom Lauderdale, the murderers of Engineer Wray, expiated their crime upon the gallows at Greenville Miss.

Cocke died cursing everybody in Greenville and the officers of the law. Lauderdale met his fate calmly.

Early dawn great throngs of people began to arrive in the city and by 10 o'clock the place was crowded to its utmost capacity.

Sheriff Hunt had sworn in a large number of deputies and every precaution was taken to prevent any possible trouble. Cocke and Lauderdale, after a good night's sleep, awoke at 7 o'clock. Breakfast was offered them but both declined to eat.

Cocke was visited by Rev. Cunningham, who tried his utmost to induce the doomed man to embrace religion, but all to no purpose.

At 11 o'clock the two men were brought into the corridors of the jail where the last farewells were said.

They were then taken to the scaffold and in full view of thousands of people both were hanged. Lauderdale remained firm and quiet throughout but Cocke raved like a madman, cursing everything and everybody in Greenville and finally when the black cap was adjusted he uttered a fearful oath at the sheriff and his deputies. There was no semblance of trouble.

STORY OF THE CRIME.

The crime for which Ashley Cocke and Tom Lauderdale Tuesday paid the death penalty on the gallows committed on a Yazoo and Mississippi Valley train about 3 o'clock on the morning of December 30, 1901, between the towns of Leland and Elizabeth in Washington county.

Ashley Cocke, Tom Lauderdale, Will Blackburn and G. M. Phipps, residing in Bolivar county, boarded the northbound passenger train at 3 o'clock in the morning for the purpose of returning to their home at Shelby.

G. M. Wray, an engineer, was a passenger on the car entered by Cocke and his party. Cocke and his three companions were all more or less under the influence of liquor. Phipps felt against Wray who was asleep on seat in the coach. Wray asked Phipps what he meant and reply came from Cocke that it meant that he (Wray) must leave the coach. Wray fully awake realized that the men were drinking and told them that it was all right and that he would leave the car. As Wray started to walk out Blackburn said to Cocke:

"What shall we do with that fellow? He says that he has done nothing, but is willing to apologize."

VOTED TO KILL HIM.

"I vote to kill him," replied Cocke. Phipps at this time sank into a seat and was not with his companions.

Cocke, Lauderdale and Blackburn then began shooting at Wray as the latter was trying to leave the coach. Wray was riddled with bullets and fell dead in the aisle of the car. While Conductor McLaughlin, who had stopped the train, was looking for officers to assist him in the arrest of the three men, the trio got off and went to the engine and forced the engineer to uncouple the engine and proceed at once to Shelby and the engineer obeyed the instructions at the point of a gun.

At Shelby, Cocke, Lauderdale and Blackburn were arrested and brought to Greenville on a special train, every precaution being taken to prevent a lynching which was threatened by many citizens. The men were indicted for murder in the first degree. Cocke and Lauderdale essayed to be tried together and after one of the most bitter legal battles in the history of the country, they were convicted and sentenced to be hanged on March 21, 1902. Notice of an appeal was filed, which stayed the execution. Later Blackburn was tried found guilty. He was sentenced to imprisonment for life, his previous character having been proven exceptionally good.

The supreme court reviewed the case of Cocke and Lauderdale and after an exhaustive examination of the record affirmed the decision of the lower court and fixed Tuesday, July 23, as the day for the execution.

GREAT LEGAL BATTLE.

Then began a mighty effort to save the two men from the scaffold. Influential relatives and friends of Cocke and Lauderdale, and especially Cocke, who is highly connected in three or more states, presented strong petitions and earnest appeals to Governor Longino to commute the death sentence to imprisonment for life, but the governor deeply sympathized with the family and relatives of the two men, remained firm and declined to interfere. Attorneys at the last moment went to Narragansett Pier, R. I., with a petition to Mr. Justice White of the supreme court of the United States, and begged that the execution be stayed on constitutional grounds.